(b) what action Government propose to take in view of the above observation ?

THE MINISTER FOR LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) One of the resolutions passed by the Chief Justices Conference presided over by the Chief Justice of India in September, 1992 and November, 1997 was that, the Chief Justices of High Courts may be accorded power to expend, appropriate and re-appropriate money within the budget allocation in respect of the High Court and the courts under its control after keeping Government informed. Further, in the Chief Justices Conferences of December, 1999, it was resolved that the High Courts should be given full autonomy for independence of the judiciary.

(b) The Government of India has requested all the State Governments/ UT Administrations to take appropriate action on the recommendations made by the Chief Justices Conference and by the three Judge Committee constituted by the Chief Justice of India to consider the issue.

Election Commission Order Issued in 1996

†2715. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Election Commission had in its written order issued during March-April, 1996 restricted the Union Public Service Commission, Staff Selection Commission, Railways Service Commission, Industrial Service Commission, Oil Selection Board, Public, Semi Public Departments and Public Sector Companies for conducting any interviews, giving any advertisements for appointments and not declaring the result of the interviews, already conducted and also for making any appointments or allotment on the basis of previous interviews during the period of Lok Sabha election in the year 1996; and

(b) if so, the proforma of the original order?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) According to the information furnished by the Election Commission, the Commission had not issued any order in March-April, 1996 banning recruitment by UPSC, SSC, Railway Service Commission or any other recruiting agencies during general election to Lok Sabha held in 1996.

(b) Does not arise.

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†Original Notice of the question was received in Hindi.